

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Council

Meeting Number 124 (10-12)

October 1, 2012

The Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meetings are held at the new Harford County Sheriff's Office Southern Precinct, 1305 Pulaski Highway, Joppa, MD. Meeting Number 124 was called to order by Chairperson Paula Mullis at 7:03 p.m., followed by a moment of silence and the pledge of allegiance. Local council members introduced themselves. Chairperson Mullis welcomed Delegate Glass. Local council members present were JoAnn Macdonald, Paula A. Mullis, Vince Rabenau, Betty Byrne, Ron Sollod, Yvonne Baldwin, James B. Lyons III and Doris G. Carey. Members absent were Gloria Moon and Bob Frisch. Ron Sollod moved and Betty Byrne seconded that the June minutes be approved. Minutes were not taken in September for lack of a quorum.

Sheriff's Office / Community Policing Report

Commander Chris Swain welcomed the local council to his house. He said that there were few burglaries in Sector 10 over the past month. Commander Swain also said that most burglaries occur when doors and windows of homes are left unlocked. He stressed the importance of securing your homes to help prevent burglaries.

Presentation – Local Council Member JoAnn Macdonald, League of Women Voters

Local council member JoAnn Macdonald shared general election voter information with the local council and community. She explained the questions that will be on the ballot in November and shared that when you go to vote, the ballots will not explain the difference between “for” and “against” the issues. Therefore, voters must make decisions ahead of time as to which way to mark the ballots. She stated that October 16, 2012 is the last day to register for the November 6 election. From October 27 – November 1, early voting will take place only at the McFaul Senior Center in Bel Air. She also volunteered to stay after the meeting to clarify any questions that may be asked concerning voting. JoAnn was thanked by everyone for her informative presentation.

County Council and Community Update from Councilman Dion Guthrie

Councilman Dion Guthrie reported that he presented a plan to county council members describing how waste collected in Harford County could be taken in by the Honeygo Run Reclamation Center at Perry Hall in Baltimore County. Dion said it is a great idea because the county would not have to deal with the waste and pay \$30 million on a waste transfer station. This is money that will not have to be spent by taxpayers. Councilman Guthrie also spoke briefly of the proposed new Walmart in the Plumbtree Road area of Bel Air. He said he opposes building a new Walmart in that area. Even though he has attended many meetings and received many emails against Walmart, a petition was put on his desk containing more than 1,000 signatures in favor of relocating Walmart to the Plumbtree Road area. Dion spoke briefly about upgrades that are to occur at Joppatowne High School. Pizza hut has moved and he will get more information concerning the building. The councilman also spoke briefly about the

new restaurant in Fallston. He attended the opening of the Texas Road House Restaurant and said the food was delicious and reasonably priced. The councilman was thanked for his participation.

Community Updates from Community Council Members and Community

Jim Lyons III and Ron Sollod stated that the Joppa-Magnolia Volunteer Fire Company Open House event was well attended. There were more than 340 ambulance calls and more than 110 fire runs in a month. They were not as busy with automobile accidents.

Betty Byrne announced that bingo is held at the fire hall every Wednesday night at 7 p.m., and bingo luncheons are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 11 a.m.

JoAnn Macdonald offered to provide materials to anyone needing help in understanding the voting process.

Paula Mullis introduced two representatives from Favored Design Hair Studio and Day Spa on Towne Center Drive. Paula wanted the new business owners to come to the meeting and introduce themselves so that the business can be supported by the community.

Yvonne Baldwin said that she agrees with all the obvious reasons for not having the waste transfer station in our community. She said that a picture is worth 1,000 words, so she took some pictures of traffic during one of many backups on I-95 near the fire station. She stood on all the corners of the property and took pictures of the wall to wall backup. She added that emergency vehicle response during these times is challenging at best, but adding all of the trash trucks will slow down response time even more. She said she has relied on the ambulance service and feel that our community can not suffer in this way.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes by Doris Carey